AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended) A system for handling email requests received from a terminal, for sending email from and receiving email by the terminal, the system comprising:

at least one email proxy and a database, the email proxy being configured to communicate with the database, the database comprising user-specific email communication configuration settings for sending and receiving email to and from an email server on behalf of the terminal,

wherein the email proxy is configured to, responsive to receiving an email request containing non-user-specific email communication configuration settings, detect a unique network address of the terminal and retrieve the user-specific email communication configuration settings from the database using the unique network address of the terminal and, without sending the retrieved user-specific email communication configuration settings back to the terminal, to communicate with [[an]] the email server on behalf of the terminal using the retrieved user-specific email communication configuration settings.

2.   (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the retrieved user-specific email communication configuration settings include a name of the email server, and a username and a password for accessing the email server.

3.   (Currently Amended) The system according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein the retrieved user-specific email communication configuration settings further include a full name of a user, and an a user-specific email address of the associated with a user of the terminal, and wherein a

portion of the received email request identifying a non-user-specific email sender address is replaced with the user-specific email address.

4.   (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the database comprises a mapping of the unique network address of the terminal to an identity of a user.

5.   (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 4, wherein a first database comprises the mapping of the unique network address of the terminal to the identity of the user, and a second database comprises the retrieved user-specific email communication configuration settings.

6.   (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein a first email proxy is used to handle email requests for retrieving email messages, and a second email proxy is used to handle email requests for sending email messages.

7.   (Currently Amended) An email retrieval proxy for handling an email retrieval request received from a terminal for receiving email by the terminal,

wherein the email retrieval proxy is configured to detect a unique network address of the terminal and retrieve user-specific email communication configuration settings, for receiving email from an email server on behalf of the terminal, from a database using the unique network address of the terminal without sending the retrieved user-specific email communication configuration settings back to the terminal, and

wherein the email retrieval proxy is further configured to modify <u>non-user-specific</u> <u>portions of</u> the <u>received</u> email retrieval request using the retrieved <u>user-specific</u> email <u>communication</u> configuration settings, forward the modified email retrieval request to [[an]] <u>the</u> email server using the retrieved <u>user-specific</u> email <u>communication</u> configuration settings, and to receive an email message from the email server and forward the received email message to the terminal.

8.   (Currently Amended) An email sending proxy for handling an email sending request received from a terminal for sending email from the terminal,

wherein the email sending proxy is configured to detect a unique network address of the terminal and retrieve <u>user-specific</u> email <u>communication</u> configuration settings<u>, for sending</u> <u>email to an email server on behalf of the terminal,</u> from a database using the unique network address of the terminal without sending the retrieved <u>user-specific</u> email <u>communication</u> configuration settings back to the terminal, and

wherein the email sending proxy is further configured to modify <u>non-user-specific</u> <u>portions of</u> the <u>received</u> email sending request using the retrieved <u>user-specific</u> email <u>communication</u> configuration settings and to forward the modified email sending request to [[an]] <u>the</u> email server using the retrieved <u>user-specific</u> email <u>communication</u> configuration settings.

9.   (Currently Amended) A terminal for use with a system of claim 1,

the terminal being provisioned with ~~default~~ non-user-specific email communication

configuration settings for sending or retrieving email messages, the ~~default~~ non-user-specific

email communication configuration settings being the same for each mobile terminal operating

within a network and are not associated with a user of the terminal, wherein the mobile terminal

is configured to send email messages to or retrieve email messages from an email server on

behalf of a unique user, via an email proxy, using only the ~~default~~ non-user-specific email

communication configuration settings ~~, and to retrieve emails associated with the user and send~~

~~emails from the user using only said default configuration settings.~~

10.   (Currently Amended) A method for handling email requests from a terminal in at

least one email proxy, for sending email from and receiving email by the terminal, the method

comprising the steps of:

receiving an email request from the terminal at the at least one email proxy for sending

email from and receiving email by the terminal, the email request comprising non-user-specific

email communication configuration settings;

detecting, via the at least one email proxy, a unique network address of the terminal;

retrieving, via the at least one email proxy, user-specific email communication

configuration settings, for sending and receiving email to and from an email server on behalf of

the terminal, from a database using the unique network address of the terminal without sending

the retrieved user-specific email communication configuration settings back to the terminal; and

communicating, via the at least one email proxy, with [[an]] the email server using the retrieved user-specific email communication configuration settings in place of the non-user-specific email communication configuration settings in the email request.

11.   (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein the user-specific email communication configuration settings include a name of the email server, and a username and a password for accessing the email server.

12.   (Currently Amended) The method according to claim [[11]] 10, wherein the retrieved user-specific email communication configuration settings further include a full name of a user, and an a user-specific email address of the associated with a user of the terminal, and wherein the method further comprises replacing a portion of the received email request identifying a non-user-specific email sender address with the user-specific email address.

13.   (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the database comprises a mapping of the unique network address of the terminal to an identity of a user.

14.   (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 13, the method comprising the steps of retrieving from a first database information about the mapping of the unique network address of the terminal to the identity of the user; and

retrieving, from a second database, the user-specific email communication configuration settings.

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP
300 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Tel: 312-903-0001
Facsimile: 312-913-0002

6

15.   (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein a first email proxy is used to handle email requests for retrieving email messages, and a second email proxy is used to handle email requests for sending email messages.

16.   (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the email proxy is further configured to ~~, responsive to receiving an email request from the terminal containing default values not associated with a user of the terminal,~~ replace the ~~default~~ non-user-specific ~~values with values associated with the user of the terminal~~ email communication configuration settings with the user-specific email communication configuration settings ~~from the retrieved email configuration settings~~ prior to communicating with the email server ~~using the retrieved email configuration settings~~.

17.-19. (Canceled)

20.   (New) The system according to claim 1, wherein the email proxy is further configured to retrieve emails from the email server on behalf of the terminal using the retrieved user-specific email communication configuration settings, and to forward the retrieved emails to the terminal.

21.   (New) The method according to claim 10, the method further comprising the steps of:

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP
300 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Tel: 312-903-0001
Facsimile: 312-913-0002

7

retrieving emails from the email server on behalf of the terminal using the retrieved user-specific email communication configuration settings, and forwarding the retrieved emails to the terminal.

22.   (New) The system according to claim 1, wherein the unique network address of the terminal comprises an IP address associated with the terminal.

23.   (New) The method according to claim 10, wherein the unique network address of the terminal comprises an IP address associated with the terminal.